

THE ANNUAL REPORT

Of President Rogers of the Ohio River Railroad.

NINETY-SEVEN A PROSPEROUS YEAR

ON ONE OF WEST VIRGINIA'S MOST PROGRESSIVE RAILROAD CORPORATIONS-A DECREASE IN GROSS EARNINGS MORE THAN COMPENSATED BY A REDUCTION IN OPERATING EXPENSES-THERE WAS A CONSIDERABLE INCREASE IN TRAFFIC IN BOTH FREIGHT AND PASSENGER DEPARTMENTS.

The annual report of the president of the Ohio River Railway Company, H. H. Rogers, of New York, has been completed, and a very good showing is made by the company for the year 1897. Gross earnings decreased slightly, but this was more than compensated by a reduction in operating expenses. Both in the passenger and freight departments there were increases in traffic compared with 1896. A synopsis of President Rogers' report follows:

	1897.	1896.	Dec.
Gross earnings	\$565,196	\$568,670	\$572,157
Operating expenses	\$252,271	\$244,670	\$252,627
Net earnings	\$312,925	\$323,745	\$319,530

Net earnings, etc., absorbed \$215,041 in 1897, leaving \$107,884 surplus to be carried to credit of profit and loss. The general balance sheet was no special change. Floating debt is \$21,115, and offsets therefor \$20,757.

President Rogers summarizes his report in the following statement: "While the gross earnings show a slight decrease for the year, this has been more than compensated by a reduction in the expenses of operation, so that the net revenue is materially larger than the previous year. The curtailment of expenses has not impaired the condition of the railway or its equipment."

During the year there was expended and charged direct to operating expenses the sum of \$238,067, account of the maintenance of the railway and structure, being an increase of \$20,333 over last year. During the year the company disposed of \$12,000 of the Huntington & Erie Railroad Company's bonds, therefor in its treasury. This leaves \$105,000 of the Huntington & Erie Railroad Company's bonds and \$128,000 of this company's general mortgage 6 per cent bonds remaining in the treasury.

Outstanding for the coming fiscal year will be as follows: Ohio River Railroad Company, \$14,000; total interest charges, \$50,100. The equipment obligations amounting to \$1,000,000, which were closed of the last fiscal year, have been reduced by the payment of \$30,000 at regular intervals during the year. At the close of this year there is outstanding \$145,000.

Traffic statistics follow:

Passengers	From passengers	\$370,396	\$365,404
Earnings mail and express		\$7,340	\$8,055
Total earnings passenger trains		\$478,736	\$473,459
Freight	Freight	\$186,460	\$195,291
Total earnings freight trains		\$186,460	\$195,291

Freight	Freight	\$186,460	\$195,291
Earnings per passenger		2.554	2.501
Earnings per freight		2.111	2.234
Freight	Freight	\$186,460	\$195,291

Freight	Freight	\$186,460	\$195,291
Earnings per ton		1.125	1.132
Earnings per ton per mile		6.84	6.78
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U. S. REGULARS AT PORT TAMPA. ARTILLERY CAMP DURING STABLE HOUR. FROM A PHOTOGRAPH TAKEN FOR HARPER'S WEEKLY.

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NOT IN THE GUARD.

Wheeling Volunteers Share the Local Prejudice Against THE STATE'S NATIONAL GUARD

AND DECIDE TO SEEK A PLACE IN COLONEL CURTIN'S PROPOSED REGIMENT OF VOLUNTEERS-THE COMPANY'S ACTION PRACTICALLY SETTLES IT THAT IT WILL NOT SEE SERVICE IN THIS WAR FOR ALL TROOPS FROM WEST VIRGINIA WILL COME THROUGH THE NATIONAL GUARD CHANNEL.

The Wheeling Volunteers held a meeting at the Odd Fellows' hall last night, to consider future plans of the organization. Probably forty young men were present. After a brief session it was decided to remain an independent organization, and tender their services as a company to Colonel G. W. Curtin, of Braxton county, who will organize the Second West Virginia Regiment of Volunteers.

This action was decided on without debate. The question of attempting to get in the National Guard was not even broached, there being a decided sentiment to the contrary. One young fellow ventured it distinctly understood that they were not to go as state troops if called on, and said he was afraid there might be some scheme to work them into the National Guard. He expressed his determination to stay out. "I am willing to lay down my life for my country, but I'll never go in any state troops to shoot down a brother workman. I mean my bread by the sweat of my brow, and won't shoulder a musket to shoot another workman."

This prejudice against the National Guard, so evident in Wheeling, was shared by others of the young men present. There were a few, however, who wanted to join the Guard, and said that was their intention, originally when they signed the roll. But they fell in line, and the motion to tender their services to Colonel Curtin was passed without dissent.

The boys appear eager to go to the front, but will hardly go otherwise than in an independent regiment to be mustered into the federal service direct, a step which doesn't seem very likely at present. Most of them say they are volunteering to fight Spain, and would not enlist in the National Guard for five years, hence Wheeling bids fair to be minus a company in the Guard unless the effort comes from another source.

ARRANGEMENTS IN PART Effected for Flag Presentation Ceremonies at St. Mary's School.

The committee having in charge the Decoration day flag ceremonies at St. Mary's school, has not yet completed the programme of exercises. Mr. John A. Howard will be one of the speakers, and all the Catholic societies have been invited to participate by Mullen division A. O. H., which is superintending the arrangements. The flag is the gift of Mr. Lawrence Ray, who will present it at the school that afternoon, after the parade, which starts from the Cathedral high school at 2 o'clock.

The flag will be blessed in the morning at 10 o'clock, at high mass, in the Church of the Immaculate Conception, by Bishop Donahue.

FLAG RAISINGS Frequent at Benwood-Dr. Ulrich to Speak at One Monday.

Flag raising is the order of the day, and at one place is this truer than Benwood, where the several departments of the industrial plants vie with each other in trying to put forward the best flag. To-day flags will be raised at the River-side blast furnace, and plant mill, and next week at the tube works. The Baltimore & Ohio round house, at Benwood Junction, will shortly be decorated with a flag by the employees, and the Wheeling steel workers are getting ready to raise one over the Benwood plant in a few days.

At Gileland's glue factory, in Upper Benwood, Monday there will be a flag raising, and it will be the occasion of more than ordinary interest. Dr. C. F. Ulrich will make the address.

A NEW REGIMENT Of West Virginia Volunteers Will be Formed-Governor Atkinson Negotiates a Loan with a Wheeling Bank to Equip the Regiment.

Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer. CHARLESTON, W. Va., May 20.-There is rejoicing among those who were unable to get into the ranks at the first call for troops by the announcement that Governor Atkinson will call for a provisional regiment to be known as the Second Infantry regiment of volunteers. The trend of public works present except Auditor LaFollette, and authorized the governor to borrow from the irrevocable school fund \$15,000 for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the recruiting regiment, also to properly equip the same. They also gave him authority to borrow more money, at his discretion, if necessary, to furnish the volunteers with clothing and supplies.

Auditor LaFollette refused to honor the order, giving as his reason that the board has no right to act unless there is a specific appropriation set aside for this purpose. Governor Atkinson then negotiated a loan with a Wheeling bank, and the money will be forthcoming in a few days. It is the intention to raise twelve companies in as many places in the state, and to give them a few weeks' drill, when they will be mobilized at some point in the state for regimental drill. A sufficient number of the old national guard will be detailed to organize the companies.

Col. D. T. E. Casteel, assistant adjutant general, will be selected as colonel, and it is said that Howard Atkinson, son of the governor, will be one of the majors. A company has already been formed here, which is captained by S. Brasher, a clerk in District Attorney Gaines' office. The first lieutenant will go to Henry Fry, of the firm of Chilton, MacCordie & Chilton.

A call is made by President McKinley the troops will be mobilized and equipped. It is thought the second regiment will be composed of the finest, and will cut out the best young men in the state.

What did you say to him?" "I saw him near the fort-castle gun limping about with a sword bound about his left leg. He was shouting and the noise of all the guns was like continuous thunder. 'Captain,' I shouted, 'the forward boiler is disabled. A shell has gone through it.'"

"Get out the hose," he said, and turned to the gun again. I went back into the boiler room and in a few minutes I went up on the deck again and the fighting had grown hotter than ever. Several of the men were missing and I looked around. Lying in a heap on the after deck in the starboard quarter, near the after conning tower, I saw five of our men who had been killed down after the shell had struck them. In other places were men lying groaning or dragging themselves about wounded and covered with blood. The deck had blood on it, and it was strewn with fragments and splinters. I went over where the five men were lying in a heap and saw that they were not all dead. John Meek could speak and move one of his hands slightly. I went up to him and I put my face down close to his.

"Can I do anything for you, John?" I asked, and he replied, "No, Jack, I'm dying; good-bye," and he asked me to grasp his hand. "Go help there," he whispered, and with fixed eyes where Captain Bernadou was still firing the forward gun. The next minute he was dead. He was my friend-and there was a pause in O'Hearn's story.

"Then the flag," he continued, after a little, "was lying at the bottom badly torn to pieces, and the bodies of the other three were on top of it. The colored cook was lying a little apart from the others, badly mangled and in a cramped position. We supposed he was dead, and covered him up the same as the others. Nearly half an hour after that we heard him calling and making a slight movement with his arms. We went to him and he said, 'Oh, boys, for God's sake move me. I'm lying over the boiler and burning up.' It was time; the deck was very hot and his flesh had been almost roasted. He soon complained that his neck was cramped, but did not seem to feel his terrible wounds. We moved him into an easier position and gave him some water. 'Thank you,' he said, and in five seconds was dead."

Then O'Hearn told of the brave conduct of the gunboat Hudson's crew in getting the Winslow out of her perilous situation. "That story was fully told on the day after the battle," he said, "and other vessels of the navy. While on the Puritan in the Brooklyn navy yard, last July, he prevented a catastrophe by saving the ship from being blown up when the deck through the megaphone. For this act of bravery he was given a medal which he now wears. He will return to some place in the navy after a few weeks' rest in Brooklyn."

FOUR CHILDREN DROWNED In Fishing Creek, Above New Martinsville.

Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer. NEW MARTINSVILLE, W. Va., May 20.-Yesterday evening four school children were drowned in Fishing creek, about fifteen miles from here. They were coming home from school and were crossing the creek with five other children from the same school, in a "johnboat," which being overloaded capsized and threw all of them out into the water.

Five were saved. Two were children of Oliver Cochran, one boy and one girl, one son of Henry King, and a son of Henry Richmond. When the bodies were recovered the children were found locked in each other's arms.

BIG DEAL. Barnsdall Sells a Big Interest and Buys in Another Field.

Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer. PARKERSBURG, W. Va., May 20.-An important deal for valuable oil property was closed up to-day. T. N. Barnsdall, buying Mallory Bros. half interest in their rich Whiskey run holdings, in Ritchie county. The price paid for the interest was \$15,000. The property consists of 417 acres on which there are seven producing wells and three drilling wells.

The property is the richest in this very prolific field, and includes the Abicht, Bumgarinder and other farms, both of which have produced gushers of a remarkable size.

Mr. Barnsdall on Monday sold all of his interests in the Odgen field extension in Wood county, consisting of 27 acres with seven producing wells, to the South Penn Oil Company for \$15,000.

Laughed Into Eternity. JOLIETTE, Quebec, May 20.-Thomas Nutty, who in November last killed his three sisters and young brother at Rawdon, to make room in his father's house for the girl he intended to marry, was hanged here to-day. Fifteen hundred laughing and jeering men witnessed the hanging.

"I am the water tender," he said, "and my place was below, but everybody went on deck when the battle began. John Varvares, the oiler, John Doniet and John Meek, the firemen, were both on watch with me and had they remained below they would probably not have been killed. After the firing began I went below again to attend to the boilers, and a few minutes later a solid shot came crashing through the side of the boat and into the boiler, where it exploded and destroyed several of the boiler tubes. At first it stunned me. When the shell burst in the boiler, it threw both the furnace doors open and the fuse from the shell struck at my feet. Two pieces of the shell also came out of the door, and I am taking them home with me as a souvenir of the war. It was a terrible crash and report altogether, and the boiler room was filled with dust and steam. For several seconds I was partially stunned, and my ears rang so I could hear nothing. I went upon the deck to report to Captain Bernadou."

"What did you say to him?" "I saw him near the fort-castle gun limping about with a sword bound about his left leg. He was shouting and the noise of all the guns was like continuous thunder. 'Captain,' I shouted, 'the forward boiler is disabled. A shell has gone through it.'"



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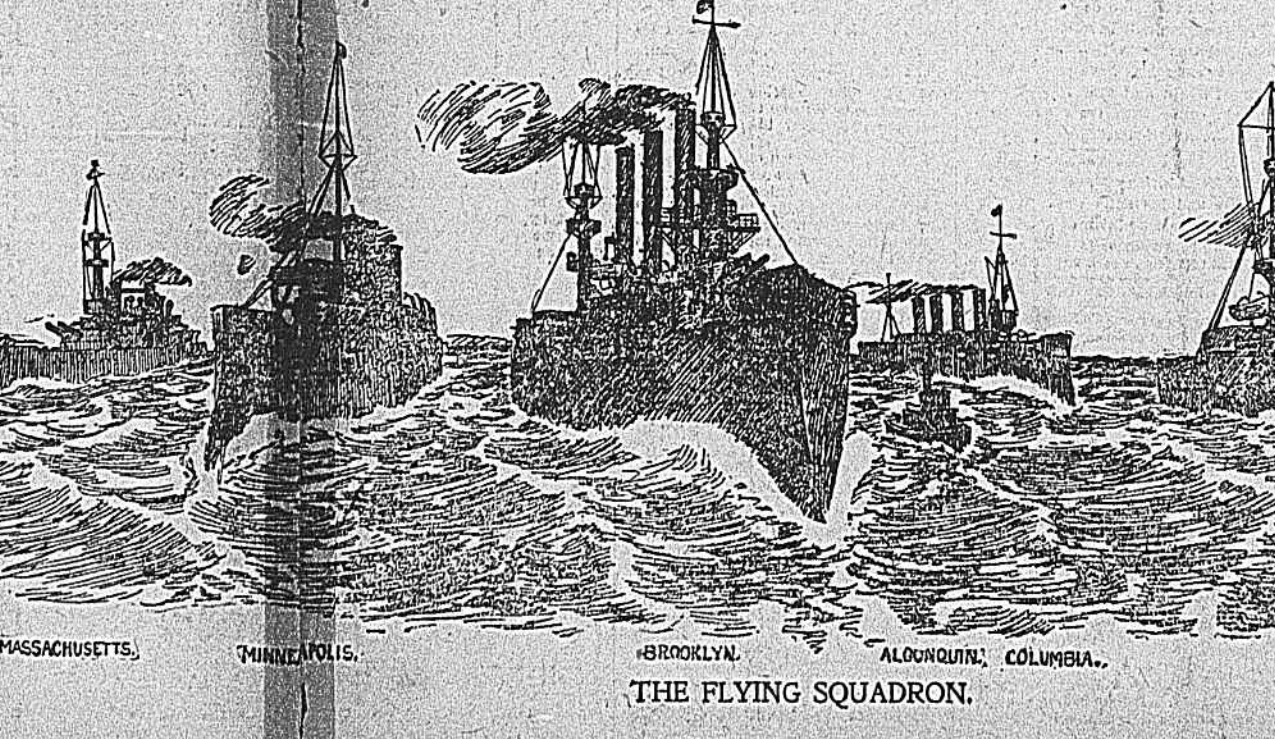
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